Continued from Seventh Page.

of the transgressor beset with unpleasant and tiresome consequences. He is a plucky If egotistical little chap and meets his reverses without any whimpering. The story of his small affairs is told in a simple straightforward fashion and is a wholesome and entertaining narrative. (The Century

"A Toy Tragedy," by Mrs. Henry de la Prature (E. P. Dutton), is an English story of a suartet of orohan children which n doubt well bred little English boys and girls will sit quietly in their tidy nurseries in front of the or en fire and re d politely, as good children should. The story is made up of the ingredients which they ex ect in juvenile fiction-a de d mother-in fact, two dead mothers—an irresponsible father, an inadeque te income, a hard he rted maiden aunt, a titled and generous uncle, a dving child of great be uty and a happy ending. The irresponsible father after the death of his second wife ships the children off to their spinster aunt without troubling himself to appounce their arrival. Naturally, an old lady with a pet dog and tyrannical servants does not welcome the quartet with cordiality. The noble uncle comes bravely to the rescue, as titled uncles in books always do. The self-secrificing elder sister ellows the selfish but beautiful younger sister to usurp her place in the uncle's house, but everything is adjusted at the deathbed of the selfish sister.

The writing of a wholesome and entersining story of family life which shall at once appeal to the interest of young people in their teens and satisfy their craving for the unusual and romantic without overtaxing credulity or defying probability is something of a problem. A more or less satisfactory solution of it is offered in Grace S. Richmond's "The Second Violin" (Doubleday, Page & Co.). The much desired element of novelty is afforded by arranging the young people of the family in a small orchestra, in which the heroine plays the second violin and is nicknamed Fiddle." The father and mother take the nselves off out of the way early in the tale, as considerate parents do who like the youngsters to enjoy themselves. The capable, elder sister slips on a banana skin in the most natural way in the world and is put out of commission for the season. leaving "The Second Violin" to take the prominent place she has always coveted with the na ve egotism of inexperience. Under such favorable circumstances she develops into a remarkable little personage, energetic, generous and eventually skilful in the management of affairs, and of course is rewarded with the one eligible husband available.

nother example of mistaken zeal and mi spent energy is embodied in Madge A. gham's new book, "Blackie, His Friends and His Enemies," in which the writer has been at much pains to reduce the fables of La Fontaine to common; lace stories for the benefit of young children. It is a ; ity that the "Story Lady," who seems to have a pretty talent for tale telling, could not employ it to better purrose than she has done in this book, which she calls "Old Fables in New Dresses " Old fables do not need new dresses any more than Mother Goose melodies need new rhyming. To re: lace the classic language of the fable rith such modern expressions as "Blackie, bush! Your imagination is something terrible!" is a kind of vandalism that it is difficult to tolerate with serenity. "Blackie" is published by Little, Brown & Co.

"Affoat on the Dogger-Bank" is the most extraordinary blend of sensational adenture and absurd coincidence ever compunded to destroy a boy's appetite for wholesome stories. Beside it the dime novel and the shilling shocker are tame baby food after caviare. The story and, where a boy of sixteen ships as cook on a North Sea trawler, and after making up a friendship with a Chinese sailor goes in for some blood curdling experiences. It finishes with a Boxer raid on an English Mission in China, where the lad and his Celestial are hunting for a treasure son's "Gabrielle Transgressor" (J. B. Lippinia the heart of a bronze Buddha. The book is written by H. C. Moore and published by the Dana Estes Company.

"Boy Blue and His Friends," by Etta Austin Blaisdell and May Frances Blaisdell, is a book of short stories for very young readers, written around the Mother Goose rhymes in short and easy words. Little y Blue's real name was Richard Snow, and he lived on a large farm in the country, with plenty of horses and cows and sheep to care for and to play with. Mary was Boy Blue's cousin, and she lived in the city, where her father owned a toyshop, but she had a real lamb that she loved better than all the play toys. Most of the familiar and beloved characters of the old nursery thymes appear in the games and simple adventures of Little Boy Blue and his playmates and pets. The book is published by

Little, Brown and Co. A picturesque story involving much hissorical, literary and traditional interest is told with skill and freshness of treatment by Harriet T. Comstock in "The Queen's Hostage" (Little, Brown and Co.). The period chosen for the setting of the story is the latter part of the reign of Elizabeth-a time exhaustless in possibilities for the romance writer. Invention cannot be thwarted by probability, for the incidents of the actual surpass the most extraordinary figments of the imagination. Every accessory esmential to plot and counter plot is at handreligious contention, treachery at court, magnificence of life, violent customs and precedents, convenient castles, with secret hambers and tortuous passages.

"The Queen's Hostage" is a tale of one of the many plots against Elizabeth, which gives an excuse for once more reproducing the gorgeous pageantry of the day. and differs from other stories of its kind in that it dwells at length upon the customs and practices of the stage. The hero goes to London under the patronage of no less a famous personage than William Shakespeare and Ben Jonson, plays women's rôles in Shakespeare's plays and saves his sovereign in a time of danger by fearless loylty. There is an element of mysticism in the story rather difficult for the youthful mind to negotiate, and the narrative is so much interrupted by quotation and fantasy that it will appeal to the scholarly and book loving rather than to the ordinary adventure craving boy and girl readers.

Some New Fiction.

The scene of border fiction has been trans ferred from the great plains and the Rockies | tures in the public galleries of England.

Mr. Eggleston's story will appeal to the thoughtful reader as well as to those who are interested only in the story he has to tell. There is all the mystification and fascination of the Arabian Nights story in following the care r of Dr. Field Stanfield.

-Springfield Union Mr. Eggleston has managed to surround his new people of fiction with mysteries which will keep his readers very busy and very pleasantly interested.—N. Y. World.

HEARTS AND THE CROSS

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The book takes hold of the reader and keeps up its interest to the end. There are sensational incidents and stirring scenes, but they are not overdrawn. Mr. Kramer will be heard from again, and will doubtless add lustre to the list of writers that are proudly claimed by Indiana .- Boston Transcript.

LOTHROP, LEE & SHEPARD CO., Boston

was going to describe life in the settled parts of England (J. M. Dent and Company of Canada. That apparently does not provide room for his strenuous hero and the real story is enacted on the border. For some reason Mr. Connor seems to have a grouch against Toronto; we cannot make out whether it is against that prosperous provincial town itself, or whether it is against the conventions of civilization found in the carital of the region be is familiar with. At all events all the wickedness in this tale will be found in Toronto; outside of it every one is good, the attractive young Scotch girl who suffers throughout, the amazingly noble brothers with their primeval passions, even the reformed gambler. The er isode of the young woman with a voice is rather stagey, and we regret that Mr. Connor should have taken up appendicitis when it, is going out of fashion, but in stite of minor flaws he has written an excellent, readable story.

In "When Love Speaks" (Macmillans) Mr. Will Payne has undertaken to oppose the flood of reform fletion by a presentation of the human side of the corrupt in politics and business that is almost a eulogy. Among the inhabitants of the second class Western town he describes we can find none that is not smirched. Those represented as villains lack even the idea that there may be honor among thieves, and are consequentvictorious. Corruption of some sort taints all the respectable people in town. The narrowness of the two persons who try to live up to their principles makes them repulsive. The amiable qualities of his generous hearted hero are effective in his domestic relations, but if lived up to we fear would, in the natural course of events, land him in jail. We suspect that the picture of American life painted by Mr. Payne is as realistically false and exaggerated as those of the prophets of

The triflers with life who dwell in suburban respectability are sketched lightly by Mr. Tom Masson in "The Von Blumers" (Moffat, Yard and Company). Their perplexities, from automobiles to servants and twins, are touched upon in successive chapters with conventional humor. The subjection of the young husband, who is narrator, to the superior intelligence of his young wife, gives the key to the book. In some cases the author is very funny: in others he, at any rate, tries earnestly to

The calf love of a hobbledehoy for a series of impressionable young women is described in "Georgie," by Dorothea Deakin have the sense to relate what they have (The Century Company). The reader must take the author's word for the attractions | Donald Maxwell in "A Cruise Across Europe" of the young man. The episodes are oc- (John Lane Company) describes a very uncasionally amusing, at times not over refined, usual journey. With a companion he

and in one instance barbarously cruel. If a young woman had not ventured into a forbidden garden in Mr. Harris Dickcott Company) she would not have been obliged to listen for many pages to a theatri cal and loquacious Turk. Why early New Orleans and its inhabitants should be reconstituted as scenery for that romantic young man's orations is not clear. It is comforting to know that Gabrielle had it was over.

Elaborate Picture Books.

Prof. Rodolfo Lanciani, an archæologist of high standing, whose reputation is, perhaps, a trifle greater with the general public than with his professional colleagues, has written in "The Golden Age of the Renaissance in Rome" (Houghton, Mifflin and Company) an interesting book that might have been made much more interesting. It has been Prof. Lanciani's function for many years to announce to the world at large the discoveries made in Roman excavations by himself and others and he has taken the opportunity to advance theories not all of which have been verified. In the book at hand be undertakes to describe the monuments of the Renaissance period that have been left in Rome and makes a rather curious jumble of superficial popular literature with technical antiquarian research. A scientific account of Rome during the Papacies he deals with, and the relics still to be found, would have been very interesting; so would be a popular account of the same period. As it is the reader is carried abruptly from summaries of popular books to technical personal investigations in a rather annoying way. Prof. Lanciani dwells at great length on Paul III., Michelangelo, Raphael, Vittoria Colonna and the banker Agostino Chigi, stopping short whenever he fancies his reader may have obtained information from some other source. The illustrations are numerous and extremely

Books describing journeys in an author's footsteps are not unusual, but to follow an artist's wanderings is not so common. It is easier to do with painters of landscape than with others and the trip taken by Mr. Herbert W. Tompkins "In Constable's Country." (J. M. Dent and Company: E. P. Dutton and Company), is very atractive. The author disclaims writing an essay on Constable and his art, but as his excursion in the valley of the Stour and elsewhere is plainly in search of the scenes Constable painted, his remarks about the pictures busy him fully as much as his impressions of the the book is adorned with many colored lithographs of the Constable pic- public

E. P. Dutton and Company) would be read with more pleasure in a smaller form than the large quarto demanded by the pictures. There is a straining for literary effects at times and a too evident recollection of other more famous wanderers, but Mr. Thomas having a charming theme to write about is often natural and entertaining. The artist, H. L. Richardson, suprises more by the variety of styles than by his success in any. Many of the illustrations have as little artistic merit as chaep German lithographs.

A glorifled guide book will be found in Versailles and the Trianons by Pierre de Nolhao (Dodd, Mead and Company). The guide is no less a person than the director of the Versailles Museum himself, so that the visitor may feel sure that he will see everything that the palace and the gardens contain. Frenchmen have a talent for picturesque description and M. de Nolhao is no exception to the rule. He begins with a brief history of the palace and later draws a picture of Louis XIV.'s daily life in it: in between he describes the apartments with their treasures, the gardens and at the end the Grand Trianon and the Petit I rianon It is an adequate picture of the one monu ment left to represent the glory of the Grand Monarch. The colored illustrations by René Biret are numerous, but by no means satisfactory. Iwo or three are very good, showing what the artist could do if he chose; the rest are amateurish and seem to have been dashed off in a hurry.

Other Books

The delightful extracts from the letters and diaries of Mrs. Samuel H. Smith, who was Margaret Bayard, which have appeared in a magazine during the last year. are now printed in book form as "The First Forty Years of Washington Society." edited by Gaillard Hunt (Charles Scribner's Sons) The editor's work is a marvel of discretion. The familiar views of Jefferson, who was the diarist's hero, and of the other famous men who appeared in Washington from 1800 to 1840 are valuable historically. So is the account of the capture of the city by the British. Still, the charm of the book is largely in the person of the writer and in the glimpses of American life during those forty years, and it is to be hoped that further extracts of a less public nature may yet be published.

If Englishmen who do things would only done instead of trying to be funny! Mr. took a rather clumsy boat through the camals of Holland, up the Rhine and the Main to the Ludwig canal in Bavaria that connects the Rhine and Danube watersheds, and thus down the Danube to the mouth. The Rhine part has been done before much more comfortably in canoes. There seems to have been little forethought as regards weather or the amount of hauling needed. How interesting the story might have been may be gathered from plenty of time to rest in a convent after the fragments of the log and the detailed account of the progress through the canal. The greater part of the book consists of impressionistic sketches of trivial adventures, with very little insight into what the travellers saw. There are many drawings by the author and his companion, some of them clever and amusing.

Another excellent one volume edition of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare" comes to us from the Clarendon Press at Oxford (Henry Frowde). The type is good, clear and very readable, the volume is convenient to the hand and the binding strong. The text, which is edited by W. J. Craig, is arranged in double columns and the lines are numbered at frequent intervals. The order of the plays is the conventional one, beginning with "The Tempest." At the end will be found an index of characters and a glossary. It will be a great convenience to students and all who need their Shakespeare in a

single volume. The marked characteristic of "The Altogether New Cynic's Calendar of Revised Wisdom for 1907" (Paul Elder and Company, San Francisco) is the not altogether new process of twisting an old saying or phrase into smart modern facetiousnes It took three authors to supply enough of this species of epigram to equal the weeks of the year, Ethel Watts-Mumford Grant. Oliver Herford and Addison C. Mizner. The pictures are unpleasant and sometimes

Fastidious palates in search of novelt may turn to "101 Mexican Dishes," by May E. Southworth (Paul Elder and Company) They will surely find something new there. and in many cases something strong. The recipes read as though they could be carried

out with good results. If reputable American publishers will follow the bad practice of covering with their names books printed in Great Britain they surely should see what it is that they father. Nothing more useless than "Everybody's Cyclopædia" (Frederick A. Stokes Company) has come to our notice in a long time. It is inconceivable that even in England the thing called "An Atlas of the World" should have been offered to the

Previously to the publication of "The Fighting Chance" the total sales of Robert W. Chambers' books had exceeded

The first edition, August 24, of "The Fighting Chance" was 50,000 copies, and subsequent editions have brought the number up to

The total sale, therefore, of the books written by this master-craftsman, equals

It is customary to compute that at least five persons read every book sold—a low estimate when you include public libraries. Therefore, multiplying the total by

we arrive at a fair estimate of the number of readers whom Mr. Chambers has reached. His personal audience, then, equals if it does not exceed the amazing aggregate of

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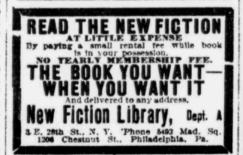
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and met many others, apparently on intimate terms, but of all these he has little to He made long voyages to distant and interesting parts of the world, but he has a genius for dwelling on trivial personal incidents and for avoiding what might be of interest. His stories are often of the sort that would strain the politeness of clubs or smoking rooms in the effort of seeming to believe them. They are innocent enough whoppers and not often interesting. There is a lot of growling against the navy administration and against individuals, but the author usually keeps his reasons to himself. It is clear that he has unconsciously thrown away the chance of relating interesting memoirs that possibly might have had some value.

Books Received. "Lectures on Modern History." Lord Acton.

(Macmillans.) "Egyptian Antiquities in the Pier Collection." Garrett Chatfield Pler. (The University of Chicago Press, Chicago.)
"The Wilderness." T. B. Clegg. (John Lane

Company.) "Be a Good Boy; Good-by and Other Back Home Poems." John L. Shroy. (J. B. Lippincott Company.)

Rich Men's Children." Geraldine Bonner. (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis.) "The Hebrew Literature of Wisdom in the Light To-day." John Franklin Genung. (Houghton, Miffin and Company.)

"The Practice of Diplomacy." John W. Foster. (Houghton, Miffin and Company.) "The House in St Martin's Street." Constance Ill. (John Lane Company.)
"Where Life is Real." Helen Hale. (Zaton and

Mains.)

"Hugo." Arnold Bennett. (F. M. Buckles and Company, New York.) "In Clive's Command." Herbert Strang. (The obbs-Merrill Company.)
"The Pomps of Salau." Edgar Seltus. (Mitchell nnericy, New York.)

"Uncle Sam's Children." Oscar Phelps Austin. "The Struggle for a Free Stage in London."
Wateon Nicholson, Ph. D. (Houghton, Miffin and Company.) on Handbook for 1907." John T. Mo-

Parland, D. D. (Eaton and Mains.)

"The Superintendent's Helper for 1907." Jesse
L yman Huribut, D. D. (Eaton and Mains.)

"Sketcnes of Young Couples." Charles Dickens.

(H. M. Caldwell Company.)

"Selections for Memorizing Avery Warner
Skinner. (Silver, Burdett and Company.)

"the Foundations of Legal Lizability." 3 vols.
Thomas Atsins Sitect. (Edward Thompson Company, Northport. N. Y.)

"The Coast of Bottemia." Thomas Nelson Page.

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"The Coast of bottemis." Thomas Nelson Page.
(Charles Sc Ibner's Sons.)
"The Field am Forest Handy Book." D. C.
Beard. (Charles Settloget' Sons.)
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"The Court Jester." Cornella Baker. (The Bobba Merrill Company.)
"Young People to Old Places." Cornella Baker. (The Bobba Merrill Company.)